

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TAIPEI 07550 190800Z

15

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 AGR-20 TRSE-00 STR-08 TAR-02

OMB-01 L-03 H-03 SS-20 NSC-10 DRC-01 /109 W

----- 040436

R 190724Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0470

INFO /AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 7550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, TW, KS

SUBJECT: MUSHROOMS

REF: TAIPEI 7185

1. ECONCOUNS MET DECEMBER 17 WITH Y. T. WONG, DIRECTOR OF BOARD OF FOREIGN TRADE. WONG PRESENTED LETTER CONTAINING FORMAL ROC REPLY TO US PROPOSALS OF SEPTEMBER 6. SUBSTANTIVE PARAGRAPHS OF LETTER ARE AS FOLLOWS:

"1. 80 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL IMPORTING QUOTA TO THE UNITED STATES BE ALLOCATED TO THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) AND KOREA (SOUTH KOREA) ACCORD*NG TO THE RESPECTIVE IMPORTING RECORDS OF THE UNITED STATES IN RECENT THREE YEARS, I.E., FROM 1971 TO 1973. THE REMAINING 20 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL QUOTA WILL BE RESERVED TO OTHER SMALL EXPORTING COUNTRIES AND ALSO THE NEWCOMERS.

"2. THE GROWTH RATE OF IMPORTS IS PROPOSED TO BE 14.5 PERCENT PER YEAR.

"3. THE QUOTA SHALL BE APPLIED TO CHAMPIGNONS MUSHROOMS PACKED IN CANS ONLY; HOWEVER, MUSHROOMS IN GLASS JAR, FROZEN MUSHROOMS, FREEZE DRIED MUSHROOMS, DEHYDRATED MUSHROOMS, SEASONED MUSHROOMS, AND ALSO MUSHROOMS IN CANED MIXED VEGETABLES WILL

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PAGE 02 TAIPEI 07550 190800Z

BE EXCLUDED.

"4. THE QUANTITY TO BE CALCULATED IS PROPOSED TO BE BASED ON DRAINED WEIGHT."

2. COMMENTING ON THE LETTER, WONG STATED THAT ROC WILLINGNESS TO REDUCE ROC AND KOREA SHARE OF US MARKET FROM CURRENT 90 PERCENT TO 80 PERCENT BASED ON ROC INTEREST IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS IN LATIN AMERICA, THE REA WHICH WILL BENEFIT THE MOST FROM INCREASED ACCESS TO US MARKET.

3. WONG AGREED THAT ROC MUST INSIST ON INCLUDING CY1971 IN BASE PERIOD. USING ONLY CY1972 AND 1973 WOULD GIVE KOREA APPROXIMATELY 30 PERCENT OF COMBINED ROC-KOREA EXPORTS TO US IN CY1974. ADDING CY 1971 WOULD REDUCE KOREA'S CY1974 QUOTA TO 9.1 MILLION POUNDS, OR 21 PERCENT OF CY1974 COMBINED ROC-KOREA EXPORTS TO US. IN OPINION ROC, TAIWAN EXPORTERS SHOULD NOT BE FORCED TO "COMPENSATE" KOREA BECAUSE ITS EXPORTERS WERE NOT MAJOR FACTOR IN US MARKET PRIOR TO CY1972.

4. REGARDING ROC REQUEST FOR 14.5 PERCENT ANNUAL GROWTH RATE, WONG ADMITTED IT CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED AND HINTED THAT ROC WOULD BE WILLING TO SETTLE FOR SMALLER FIGURE SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 14.5 PERCENT AND 5 PERCENT, 6 PERCENT. 7 PERCENT FORMULA IN US PROPOSAL.

5. COMPLETE TEXT OF WONG'S LETTER IS BEING FURNISHED TO EB/OT/STA.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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